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THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 21 July 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

A Special Ministerial Meeting of 16 members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) was held at Islamabad on 12 and 13 July 1993 to consider the grave situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The meeting adopted an Action Plan for Bosnia and Herzegovina which I had earlier forwarded to you (see A/47/977-S/26112, annex II).

At the meeting, seven Islamic countries offered to contribute troops for the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in former Yugoslavia in response to Security Council resolution 836 (1993). It is the hope of the OIC countries that you will be able to respond positively to these offers so that an adequate United Nations force can be deployed as soon as possible for the protection of the "safe areas" in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

I wish to express our appreciation to you for deputing Assistant Secretary-General Iqbal Riza and General Maurice Baril to participate in the meeting on behalf of the United Nations. The discussions held with them have helped to clarify a number of operational and other issues related to the participation of national contingents from OIC countries in UNPROFOR. Some issues will require further discussions with the United Nations and concerned States Members of the United Nations.

The Islamic countries are deeply anguished by the severe humanitarian problems in Bosnia and Herzegovina, especially the plight of the Muslim populations in the besieged cities like Sarajevo, which are without food, fuel, medicine and even drinking water, while at the same time they are being shelled and attacked by the Serbian forces.

The OIC Ministers were unanimous in their opposition to the imposition of any plan that would partition and dismember the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. We have called for the observance of a cease-fire and cessation of hostilities as an essential prerequisite for the success of negotiations for a

political settlement based on the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the London Conference and those endorsed by the United Nations Security Council to adopt urgently a resolution demanding a cease-fire.

It is our hope that you will support the early reconvening of the London Conference as the forum for negotiations on Bosnia and Herzegovina. The reconvened Conference should include fuller representation from the Islamic countries.

It is the view of the Islamic countries that, even at this eleventh hour, the United Nations and its Member States must make every possible endeavour to halt the ongoing genocide and aggression in Bosnia and Herzegovina. We have spelt out the measures that should be taken in the Action Plan. The OIC members look forward to working in cooperation with other United Nations Member States to implement these measures to save the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina and to preserve the sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of this Member State of the United Nations.

I shall be grateful if the text of the present letter is circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 143, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Jamsheed K. A. MARKER
Ambassador
Permanent Representative